

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

GEORGE LOPEZ,	:	Civil No. 3:21-CV-1819
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	(Judge Mehalchick)
v.	:	
	:	
JOHN WETZEL, et al.,	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
Defendants	:	

DARIEN HOUSER,	:	Civil No. 3:24-CV-603
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	(Judge Mehalchick)
v.	:	
	:	
JOHN WETZEL, et al.,	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
Defendants	:	

GERALD WATKINS,	:	Civil No. 3:24-CV-604
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
JOHN WETZEL, et al.,	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
Defendants	:	

RALPH STOKES,	:	Civil No. 3:24-CV-605
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
JOHN WETZEL, et al.,	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
Defendants	:	

JOSE UDERRA,	:	Civil No. 3:24-CV-606
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
JOHN WETZEL, et al.,	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
Defendants	:	

RICHARD A. POPLAWSKI,	:	Civil No. 3:24-CV-607
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
JOHN WETZEL, et al.,	:	(Magistrate Judge Carlson)
	:	
Defendants	:	

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

THE BACKGROUND OF THIS ORDER IS AS FOLLOWS:

These *pro se* prisoner civil rights actions were originally brought as a single lawsuit by six inmates held by the Department of Corrections challenging what they allege was unconstitutionally prolonged and severe solitary confinement by corrections staff. (Doc. 1). According to the plaintiffs they have suffered severe emotional and psychological injuries due to this prolonged solitary confinement. (Id.) However, a review of the plaintiffs' complaint reveals that these alleged instances of solitary confinement occurred at different places and times over the past two decades. (Id.) Further, the complaint asserts that each individual prisoner plaintiff suffered from distinct emotional impairments which were exacerbated in different ways by their confinement. (Id.) Thus, factually these six plaintiffs have claims that involved disparate acts and actors which have had different and distinct impacts upon their lives.

The defendants have moved for a stay of proceedings as they consider whether to pursue a petition for writ of certiorari with the United States Supreme Court, seeking further review of Roy Lee Williams v. Secretary of Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, 117 F.4th 503 (3dCir. 2024), a Third Circuit ruling which denied a defense claim of qualified immunity in a factually similar case.

The plaintiffs are ORDERED to respond to these stay motions on or before **January 3, 2025**. The movants may then file reply briefs on or before **January 17, 2025**.

So ordered this 11th day of December 2024.

S/Martin C. Carlson

Martin C. Carlson

United States Magistrate Judge